

Southeast News: Major and Miner



Safety through Education & Training



2003-2

Birmingham, Alabama

June, 2003

MSHA

NEW FACES IN NEW PLACES

Robert McPheeters transferred from our **Franklin Tennessee Field Office** to our **Knoxville, Tennessee Field Office** on **April 20, 2003**. Robert is a metal and nonmetal mine inspector.

Steven R. Smith (Smitty) started working in our **Macon Georgia Field Office** on May 19, 2003 as a mine inspector. Smitty was an MSHA inspector in Vincennes, Illinois from 1975 – 1980, and a member of the National Mine Rescue Team. Before coming back to work with MSHA, Smitty worked with IMC Global Potash Division as Environmental Health and Safety Director.

Steve Manis, metal/nonmetal mine inspector in our **Macon Georgia Field Office** has announced his plans to retire effective **June 30, 2003**. Steve has almost 30 years of Government service.

Darrell Brennan, metal and nonmetal mine inspector in our field office in **Sanford, North Carolina** is planning to retire on **July 3, 2003** after 29 years of Government service.

Earl Goldsberry, metal and nonmetal mine inspector in our **Macon, Georgia Field Office** is planning to retire after 18 years of service. Earl's retirement date is planned for **July 25, 2003**.



SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD OFFICE IS MOVING

Our Columbia South Carolina Field Office is planning to relocate on July 15, 2003. The new address will be:

MSHA – M/NM
Strom Thurmond Federal Bldg.
1835 Assembly Street, Room 365
Columbia, SC 29201

The new telephone numbers will be:

Office: (803) 765-5802
Fax: (803) 765-5805

INFORMATION

PROGRAM INFORMATION **BULLETINS**

Program Information Bulletin No. P03-04

Issue Date: March 25, 2003

Subject: Short Circuit Protection for Trailing Cables Longer Than 500 Feet

Program Information Bulletin No. P03-06

Issue Date: April 1, 2003

Subject: Mine Safety Appliances (MSA) Five Star Alarm, Potential for Inaccurate Methane Reading

Program Information Bulletin No. P03-07

Issue Date: April 3, 2003

Subject: Mine Safety Appliances (MSA) Five Star Alarm, Additional Information Related to Public Information Bulletin Number P03-06

Program Information Bulletin No. P03-09

Issue Date: April 21, 2003

Subject: Mine Rescue Contest Participation – Credit for 30 CFR Part 49 Training



NEWS RELEASES

Release Date: March 28, 2003

Subject: North Carolina Awarded Grant for Mine Safety Training, Education

Release Date: April 2, 2003

Subject: MSHA Awards Mississippi Grant for Training and Education

Release Date: April 2, 2003

Subject: MSHA Awards Kentucky Grant for Training and Education

Release Date: April 2, 2003

Subject: MSHA Awards Alabama Grant for Training and Education

Release Date: April 15, 2003

Subject: MSHA Awards Florida Grant for Training and Education

Release Date: April 15, 2003

Subject: MSHA Awards Tennessee Grant for Training and Education

Release Date: April 22, 2003

Subject: MSHA Urges Kids to “Stay Out and Stay Alive” – National Safety Campaign Kicks off Fifth Year

Release Date: April 28, 2003

Subject: MSHA, IMA-NA Form Miner Safety

Alliance

Release Date: May 8, 2003

Subject: MSHA Awards Georgia Grant for Training and Education

Release Date: May 13, 2003

Subject: MSHA Awards South Carolina Grant for Training and Education

Copies of the Program Information Bulletins and News Releases are available, by contacting Cindy Kinard (205) 290-7296, ext. 225; fax (205) 290-7299 or on MSHA's Homepage at www.msha.gov.



***Alerts/
Best Practices***

The following alerts/best practices have been released:

➤ Special Tire Hazard Alert – posted on MSHA's website on April 8, 2003 - on March 5, 1999, Pennzoil recalled its fix a flat product line. To access the recall for Pennzoil Fix a Flat, go to <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov>, then go to Recalls Search. Enter the Campaign I.D. number **99E007000** in the box and hit the search button.

➤ Supervisors - Check out All the Details Experience – posted on MSHA's website April 7, 2003 – this one-page alert discusses fatalities involving four supervisory employees killed in mining related accidents through March 2003. Note: on May 21, 2003 and June 2, 2003, two additional supervisory employees were fatally injured in mining accidents.

➤ Explosives Security Reminder – Best Practices – posted on MSHA's website on March 28, 2003 - this one-page reminder lists best practices to assist mine operators with security issues where explosives are present at mine sites.

➤ Miner Training Saves Lives - this one-page

alert lists best practices to address the importance of thorough training.



Public Service Announcements

The following Public Service Announcements are available on MSHA's Homepage at www.MSHA.gov:

Video Clips:

- ✓ ☐ Stay Out Stay Alive 2001
- ✓ ☐ Metal/Nonmetal Accidents
– En Espanol

Audio Clips:

- ✓ ☐ Abandoned Mines
- ✓ ☐ Independent Contractors
- ✓ ☐ Hazard Notification
- ✓ ☐ Small Mines
- ✓ ☐ Restart Hazards

Audio clips are also available in text. To obtain copies of the text versions, please contact Cindy Kinard at (205) 290-7296, ext. 225 or e-mail: kinard.cindy@dol.gov

Holmes Safety Bulletin

Eleven times a year, the Holmes Safety Association publishes a magazine titled *The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association Bulletin*. The *Bulletin* contains articles specifically related to safety and health at our nation's mines and is a great training tool. A form in the back of the magazine can be completed and submitted which will add your name to the mailing list to begin receiving the magazine on a routine basis. The *Bulletin* is **free-of-charge**. If you would like a copy of this publication please contact Cindy Kinard (205) 290-7296, ext. 225 or e-mail: kinard.cindy@dol.gov

Training Materials

The following newly released training materials are available from MSHA's Health and Safety Academy:

Multimedia Materials

Fighting Miner Fatigue on Unusual Work Schedules – This program includes A PowerPoint presentation on CD (**IG82**), A Management Perspective Instructor Guide (**IG82a**) and a Worker Perspective Instructor Guide (**IG82b**). The program is designed to address unusual work schedules in the mining industry and ways to help raise miners' awareness of potential problems and ways of coping with these schedules.

Cost:

IG82 CD PowerPoint Presentation - **\$8.00**

IG82a and IG82b Guides – First copy **free-of-charge**; additional copies are \$2.00

Hidden Hazards – Pipeline Safety in the Mining Industry (IG85) – A 51-slide PowerPoint program on CD that reviews hidden hazards associated with buried pipelines on mining properties. This program was developed by Martin Consulting. Cost: **\$8.00**

Videotapes

Hearing Conservation, MSHA's Part 62 (VC978) – This 21-minute video illustrates different types of hearing protectors and the proper way to wear them. Cost: **\$8.00**

Highwall Hazard Recognition (VC968) – A 6-minute video features an experienced truck driver training a new employee about the dangers found near highwalls. Cost: **\$8.00**

No Big Deal (VC 973) – This 9-minute tape tells the success story of a rock driller who survived a fall from the top of highwall because he was wearing fall protection equipment. Included are best practices for working on top of highwalls and proper use of personal fall protection equipment. Cost: **\$8.00**

Safety Tips (Working Beside Highwalls) (VC970) – This 5-minute video follows a supervisor as he makes his rounds at a surface mine. Cost: **\$8.00**

Reducing Dust Inside Enclosed Cabs (VC972) – This video, produced by NIOSH, explains the importance of structural stability in equipment cabs, proper sealing of cracks and doors to improve positive pressure, and correct placement of the dust filtration system.

We Are...MSHA (VC974) – This 9-minute tape gives an overview of MSHA's mission, which is to help improve workplace safety and health conditions in our Nation's mines through enforcement, education and training, and technical support. Cost: **\$8.00**

To obtain copies of any of the above-listed materials, please contact MSHA's National Mine Health and Safety Academy; 1301 Airport Road; Beaver, WV 25813-9426. Telephone (304) 256-3257; Fax (304) 256-3368; e-mail: DistributionCenter@dol.gov

Equipment Safety and Health Concerns

MSHA has added a page on the website that contains links to equipment related data from 1995-2002. This page will enable the user to search for a particular year or by listed equipment type. The user then can link to fatalgrams and accident reports. MSHA's goal is to educate equipment operators and the

mining community about the hazards associated with operating a specific type of equipment. Future updates will include links to manufacturer websites and contact information, general accident prevention safety ideas and miner's tips, and equipment recall notices.

To access this site go to:
<http://www.msha.gov/equipmentsafety/equipmentsafetyhome.asp>

E-mail Addresses for MSHA Employees

MSHA has gone to a "Department Wide" e-mail system. All e-mail addresses for MSHA employees will be as follows:

last name.first name@dol.gov
e.g.: **smith.john@dol.gov**



Holmes Safety District Councils

We need your help! The Southeastern District is working to establish Holmes Safety District Councils throughout the Southeast. A District Council is comprised of individuals representing management, labor and government that meet on a routine basis to discuss common issues related to safety and health in mining. We are trying to start District Councils in all states throughout the Southeast. If you are interested in helping to establish a Council, or becoming a member of a Council, please contact Michael Davis at (205) 290-7294 or e-mail: davis.michael@dol.gov



MSHA's Small

Mines Office

Mine operators employing five or fewer persons can request assistance from MSHA's Small Mines Office. This office was recently formulated to assist small mines with complying with regulations and to help mine operators develop accident prevention programs. Persons in this office can provide compliance assistance with training materials and needs, as well as violation and accident reduction/prevention. Persons visiting your mine site from this office are in a non-enforcement capacity and will not issue citations.

Following is a list of persons in MSHA's Small Mine Office assigned to help mine operators in the Southeast:

Alabama

Alexis E. Goins
3837 South U.S. Hwy 25E
Barbourville, KY 40906
(606) 546-2805, ext. 150
Fax: (606) 546-6394
e-mail: goins.alexis@dol.gov

Florida

Dennis W. Carter
P.O. Box 560
Norton, VA 24273
(276) 679-0230, ext. 155
Fax: (276) 679-1663
e-mail: carter.dennis@dol.gov

Georgia

Ronald H. Scaggs

P.O. Box 38
Mt. Carbon, WV 25139
(304) 442-5145
Fax: (304) 442-2896
e-mail: scaggs.ronald@dol.gov

Kentucky

Mississippi

Thomas J. Morgan
424 Main St., Suite 208
Jacksboro, TN 37757
(423) 562-4265
Fax: (423) 562-1067
e-mail: morgan.thomas@dol.gov

North Carolina

South Carolina

Michael R. Gilpin
225 Commercial Court
Sanford, NC 27330
(919) 774-8113
Fax: (919) 775-5954
e-mail: gilpin.michael@dol.gov

Tennessee

Thomas J. Morgan
424 Main St., Suite 208
Jacksboro, TN 37757
(423) 562-4265
Fax: (423) 562-1067
e-mail: morgan.thomas@dol.gov

Alexis E. Goins
3837 South U.S. Hwy 25E
Barbourville, KY 40906
(606) 546-2805, ext. 150
Fax: (606) 546-6394
e-mail: goins.alexis@dol.gov

To request assistance , please feel free to contact the person(s) assigned to your state.

**CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS /
MEETINGS**

CLASSES

2003 Joint National Meeting

The 2003 Joint National Meeting of the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association, National Association of State Mine Inspection and Training Agencies, Mine Safety Institute of America and Western TRAM will be held in **Reno, Nevada** from **June 16-19, 2003**. The conference will include: Free training materials; Networking with industry peers; Three distinct training tracks: underground, surface, general; Joint panel sessions on topics that involve the mining industry; Short courses offered by TRAM. Accommodations will be at the Silver Legacy Resort and Casino. For reservations call (775) 329-4777.

A limited number of rooms have been reserved at the preferred rate of \$55.00. Cost of conference registration:

Advance - **\$150** (includes Vendor Hospitality, Banquet and Refreshments);

On-Site - **\$170** (includes all of the above);

Spouse and Guest - **\$75**.

For additional information, or to obtain a registration form, please contact Judy Tate at (214) 767-8423 or Elaine Cullen at (509) 354-8057.

**MSHA INSTRUCTOR
CERTIFICATION**

MSHA Instructor Certification Classes are available to interested persons, **free-of-charge**. The three-day classes are scheduled on an as-needed basis when the number of requests support a class of at least 10 attendees. The next class is scheduled for **July 8-10, 2003 in Birmingham, Alabama**. This program will prepare experienced mine employees to conduct safety training mandated by the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act. Upon completion of the program, each experienced miner participant will be certified by MSHA as an approved instructor to conduct mandated miner safety training.

For additional information, or to enroll in this program, please contact Terry Phillips or Connie Carmichael; (205) 290-7294; fax: (205) 290-7299; e-mail: phillips.terry.e@dol.gov or carmichael.connie@dol.gov



Aiken Technical College and Coffing Hoists and Engineered Systems, Inc. invite you to attend this comprehensive seminar on Hoist/Crane Safety. The seminar will be held **July 23, 2003** at Aiken Technical College Auditorium, **Aiken, South Carolina**. Topics will include: OSHA requirements for crane and hoist safety, Crane and hoist inspection procedures, ANSI standards for crane and hoist safety, Potential safety issues for different types of cranes and hoists. Cost of the seminar is **\$35.00**. Each person attending must complete a registration form. To obtain a copy of the form, please contact Richard McEachern at mceacher@atc.edu or call (803) 594-9954, ext. 1501 or 1590.

**NOISE AND DUST
MONITORING WORKSHOP**

The National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association and the National Mine Health and Safety Academy in conjunction with State Aggregates Associations will be presenting Noise and Dust Monitoring Workshops. Following are dates and locations:

June 17, 2003 – Bloomington, IN
July 15, 2003 – Forest Park, GA
July 29, 2003 – Golden, CO
September 30, 2003 – Bedford, PA

If you are interested in attending, please contact Rocky McKinney at (304) 256-3345 or Polly Kalich at (304) 256-3329.



ACADEMY CLASSES

The following classes are available through MSHA's Mine Health and Safety Academy located in Beckley, West Virginia:

Accident Prevention Techniques*

3 days, scheduled upon request
Technical Coordinator: **Kenneth Scott**
Tuition: **\$215.00**

Blasting (Underground)*

2 days, available on request
Technical Coordinator: **Wayne Lively**
Tuition: **\$143.00**

Industrial Hygiene: Sampling for Respirable Silica Dust and Noise

Only offered on site
Technical Coordinators: **William McKinney, Polly Kalich**
Tuition: **\$250.00 per student**

Instructor Training Workshop (Part 48)

August 25-28, 2003
Includes optional first aid class on first day
Technical Coordinator: **Kenneth Scott**

Tuition: **\$215.00** (3 days)
\$286.00 (4 days) includes one day
First Aid Instructor Training

Introduction to Mining*

August 26-28, 2003
Technical Coordinator: **Jimmy Shumate**
Tuition: **\$215.00**

Mine Accident Investigation Techniques*

September 9-11, 2003
Technical Coordinator: **Kenneth Scott**
Tuition: **\$215.00**

Mine Elevator Inspection Program Training – Module I*

July 29-31, 2003
Technical Coordinator: **Roy Milan**
Tuition: **\$215.00**

Mine Rescue Training

1 day, available on request
Technical Coordinator: **David Friley**
Tuition: **\$72.00** (may be waived for mine rescue team members)

Respirable Dust and Silica Sampling and Control*

3 days, scheduled upon request
Technical Coordinator: **William McKinney**
Tuition: **\$215.00**

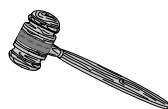
Roof Control for Miners*

1 day, available on request at worksite
Technical Coordinator: **John Rosiek**
Tuition: **\$72.00**

Underground Ventilation for M/NM Mines*

2 days, available on request
Technical Coordinator: **Scott Mandeville, Rocky McKinney**
Tuition: **\$143.00**

***Scheduling at worksite available upon request. For additional information on these classes, please contact the technical coordinator at (304) 256-3100 or to enroll call (304) 256-3252; fax: (304) 256-3251.**



Rulemaking

***Asbestos Exposure Limit* –Proposed Rule Stage**
- Advance notice of proposed rulemaking

published March 29, 2002. A notice of change to public meetings was published April 18, 2002. Advance notice of proposed rule making comment period ended June 27, 2002. Notice of proposed rulemaking is expected September, 2003.

Criteria and Procedures for Proposed Assessment of Civil Penalties – Completed

Action – Rule revised MSHA's civil penalty assessment amounts to adjust for inflation. Direct final rule was published February 10, 2003, and became **effective April 11, 2003**.

Diesel Particulate Matter Exposure of Underground Metal and Nonmetal Miners

–Proposed Rule Stage – MSHA published final rule on January 19, 2001 that established an interim concentration limit of 400 micrograms of total carbon per cubic meter of air that became applicable July 20, 2002 and a final concentration limit of 160 micrograms to become applicable after January 19, 2006. The rule has been legally challenged and settlement negotiations with litigants have resulted in further regulatory action on several requirements in the January 19, 2001 final rule. As a result of partial settlement, MSHA published two documents in the Federal Register on July 5, 2001. One delayed the effective date of §57.5066(b). The second was a proposed rule to clarify § 57.5066(b)(1) and (b)(2) and to add a new paragraph (b)(3) to 57.5067. The final rule on these issues was published February 27, 2002, and became effective March 29, 2002. MSHA agreed to reenter rulemaking on several other provisions. The following constitute the basis for this new rulemaking:

§57.5060(a) and (b) – changing the diesel particulate matter surrogate from total carbon to elemental carbon for both the interim and final concentration limits;

§57.5060(d) – permitting miners to work in areas where diesel particulate matter exceeds the applicable concentration limits;

§57.5060(e) – prohibiting the use of personal protective equipment to comply with the concentration limits;

§57.5060(f) – prohibiting the use of

administrative controls to comply with the concentration limits;

§57.5061(b) – changing reference of total carbon to elemental carbon;

§57.5061(c) – deleting reference to “area” and “occupational” sampling for compliance;

§57.5062 – addressing the diesel particulate matter control plan.

Advance notice of proposed rulemaking was published September 25, 2002. Comment period ended November 25, 2002. Notice of proposed rule is expected to be published July 2003.

Focused Inspections – **Prerule Stage** – Advance notice of proposed rulemaking expected June 2003.

Improving and Eliminating Regulations – **Final Rule Stage** - Rulemaking will revise text in CFR to reduce burden or duplication, and to streamline requirements. The following issues are being considered for direct final and/or proposed rulemaking: updating the 1985 SAE seat belt standard to the current 1997 standard; providing alternatives for containers used to store flammable liquids; addressing compliance burdens for small mines; reducing paperwork approval burden for sanitary toilet facilities; and allowing the use of spring-loaded locking devices on battery powered machines, rather than padlocks. The following phases are expected September, 2003: Notice of proposed rulemaking and direct final rule – phase 7 – storage containers; Notice of proposed rulemaking and direct final rule – phase 8 – small mine compliance. Direct final rule – phase 10 – spring-loaded locks is scheduled for publication in July 2003.

Notification of Methane Detected in Mine Atmosphere – **Proposed Information Collection Request** – Proposed request published April 17, 2003. MSHA is soliciting comments concerning the extension of the information collection related to the 30 CFR Sections 57.22004(c), 57.22229, 57.22230, 57.22231, and 57.22239. Comment period closes June 16, 2003.

Safety Standards for Roof Bolts in Metal and Nonmetal Mines and Underground Coal Mines – **Proposed Information Collection Request** –

Proposed request published April 17, 2003.
MSHA is soliciting comments concerning the extension of the information collection related to the 30 CFR Section 56.3203(a), 57.3203(a) and 75.204(a). Comment period closes June 16, 2003.

Seat Belts for Off-Road Work Machines and Wheeled Agricultural Tractors at Metal and Nonmetal Mines – Final Rule Stage –
Proposed rule published April 21, 2003.
Comment period closed May 21, 2003.
Effective June 20, 2003, if no significant comments are received.

Underground Retorts – Proposed Information Collection Request –
Proposed request published April 17, 2003.
MSHA is soliciting comments concerning the extension of the information collection related to the 30 CFR Section 57.22401.
Comment period closes June 16, 2003.

The Semiannual Regulatory Agenda was published May 27, 2003. This document contains the agenda of regulations that have been selected for review or development during the coming one-year period. Copies of this document are available upon request and can be obtained by contacting the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances or on MSHA's Homepage or at MSHA's homepage at www.msha.gov

For further information on regulatory subjects please contact Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances; 1100 Wilson Boulevard; Arlington, VA 22209-3939; (202) 693-9440.



INDUSTRY

Congratulations

*On June 27, 2003, **Unimin Schoolhouse Facilities in Spruce Pine, North Carolina** will recognize their employees for working one million hours without a lost-time accident. Congratulations!*

2003 MINING FATALITIES

**As of June 5, 2003,
mining operations have
reported the following:**

24 fatalities, nationwide:

11 at metal/nonmetal mines,

13 at coal operations

2003 FATALS REPORTED IN SOUTHEAST

The Southeast has had three fatal accidents reported this year, as of June 5, 2003. Following is information available on these fatalities:

Update - Kentucky – January 18, 2003 – A 37-year-old supervisor was fatally injured when he stepped through a metal plate that was covering an airshaft. The victim was attempting to get to a water hose to relocate it when he stepped on the plate. The plate had deteriorated and was unable to support the victim, causing him to fall 143 feet to the

second level of the mine. **Cause of Accident:** The metal plate the victim stepped onto was severely corroded and could not support the weight of the victim.

The deterioration was not detected because the underside of the plate was not visible or accessible. Access to the metal plate covering the airshaft was not blocked against entry and procedures were not established to ensure safe access was provided to perform necessary work in this area.

May 15, 2003 – North Carolina – A 51-year-old master welder was fatally injured while fabricating a screen tower section. Using an overhead bridge crane, he was positioning the 3-beam, right side component for assembly. While he was standing on the bottom beam, communicating with the crane operator and positioning a chain sling, the load shifted and fell, crushing him. **Cause of Accident:** Still under investigation.

June 2, 2003 – Georgia – A 52-year old contractor foreman was fatally injured while he and another employee were laying 24-inch storm water drain pipes in a ditch that was approximately 9 feet deep. They were waiting for the trackhoe operator to bring another section of pipe when the embankment collapsed and engulfed the victim. **Cause of Accident:** Still under investigation.



2002 Employment/ Accident Data

In 2002, mining operations in the Southeast reported 9 fatalities, 774 lost-time injuries, and 285 no lost-time injuries for a total of 1,068 injuries

34,397 miners were reported working 71,563,268 hours in 2002.

1,741 mines in the Southeast are on record as reporting the following:

403 (23.2%) reported injuries, 1,254 (72%) reported employment data only, and 84 (4.8%) failed to file a quarterly report in fourth quarter.

The average lost-time incidence rate for mines in the Southeast was 2.16. The national lost-time incidence rate was 2.60.

The average total incidence rate for mines in the Southeast was 2.98. The national average was 3.90.

and Injury Reports for second quarter (April - June) are due to be submitted to Denver by

July 15, 2003.

2003 Fatal Data

Of the 11 fatalities reported in Metal/Nonmetal in 2003:

2 occurred to Contractors working on mine properties,



Quarterly Employment



HELP US KEEP OUR MAILING LIST CURRENT

As address corrections or deletions become necessary, please let us know. Changes and/or deletions should be submitted by identifying the 5-digit identification number shown in the upper left-hand corner of your mailing label.

If you are currently not receiving Southeast News: Major and Miner, and would like to be added to the mailing list, please submit the following information: name, job title, and address.

Additions, changes, deletions should be sent to: Cindy Kinard; MSHA-M/NM; 135 Gemini Circle, Suite 212; Birmingham, AL 35209. (205) 290-

7296, ext. 225,
fax: (205) 290-7299;
e-mail: kinard.cindy@dol.gov

Yours in Safety,

- *Bartow, Florida Field Office
- *Birmingham, Alabama Field Office
- *Columbia, South Carolina Field Office
- *Franklin, Tennessee Field Office
- *Knoxville, Tennessee Field Office
- *Lexington, Kentucky Field Office
- *Macon, Georgia Field Office
- *San Juan, Puerto Rico Field Office
- *Sanford, North Carolina Field Office

**Michael A. Davis
District Manager
Southeastern District
Mine Safety and Health
Administration
Metal and Nonmetal
Birmingham, Alabama**

REMEMBER



**Safety is a
Value**